

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 02158 021100Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 ACDA-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OPIC-03

/078 W

----- 068362

R 011740Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1435

INFO CINCUSNAVEUR

AMEMBASSY LISBON

CINCEUR

US DOCOSOUTH

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 2158

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT SP PO

SUBJ: FALSE PRESS STORIES ON TROOP LANDINGS AT ROTA SEVILLE

REF: MADRID 2004

1. FEDERICO VILLAGRAN, DIRECTOR OF SEVILLE DAILY "CORREO DE ANDALUCIA" HAS BEEN IMPRISONED PENDING TRIAL IN CONNECTION WITH CORREO'S MARCH 25 REPORT ALLEGING 7,000 TROOPS HAD DIS-EMBARKEED AT ROTA, POSSIBLY FOR INTERVENTION IN PORTUGAL (REF-TEL). CORREO'S REPORT WAS DENIED SAME DAY BY MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, WHICH ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT LEGAL ACTION WOULD BE INITIATED AGAINST VILLAGRAN FOR POSSIBLE VIOLATION OF PRESS LAW PROVISIONS CONCERNING "RESPECT FOR TRUTH" AND "MAINTENANCE OF EXTERNAL PEACE." SUBSEQUENTLY CORREO, WHICH HAS REPUTATION AS FEARLESS AND HIGHLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER AND WHICH HAS HAD SEVERAL RECENT RUN-INS WITH GOVERNMENT, PUBLISHED MINISTRY OF INFORMATION'S DENIAL AS REQUIRED, BUT COUPLED IT WITH MIS-LEADING HEADLINES AND PHOTOS SUGGESTING THERE WAS SOME SUBSTANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 02158 021100Z

TO ITS EARLIER REPORTS OF IMPENDING MILITARY ACTION.

2. COMMENT: COMMENT: JAILING OF VILLAGRAN IS STRONGER ACTION THAN GOVERNMENT NORMALLY TAKES AGAINST ERRING JOURNALISTS IN SUCH CASES. GOS APPEARS TO HAVE REACTED STRONGLY BECAUSE OF VILAGRAN'S REPUTATION AS GADFLY, GRAVE CONCERN IN SPANISH MILITARY CIRCLES OVER SENSATIONALIST INACCURACIES IN REPORT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS OF MISUSE OF BASES BY U.S., AND BECAUSE OF MFA'S SENSITIVITY AT THIS TIME OVER DISTORTIONS THAT MIGHT UPSET DELICATELY BALANCED RELATIONS WITH PORTUGAL.
STABLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, PENAL INSTITUTIONS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRID02158
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750113-1133
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750494/aaaadhmz.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MADRID 2004
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FALSE PRESS STORIES ON TROOP LANDINGS AT ROTA SEVILLE
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SP, PO, (VILLAGRAN, FEDERICO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006